

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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NIC-01 DRC-01 /156 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1547

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11767

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLANS TO ORGANIZE THE WORKER

1. THE MOVE TOWARD TRADE UNION UNITY IN RECENT YEARS, THE INSTITUTION OF INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN HOLDING BOTH TRADE UNION AND PARTY POSITIONS, AND THE RELATIVE AUTONOMY OF CISL FROM CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) WHILE CGIL REMAINS LINKED TO COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) HAVE CREATED A PROBLEM FOR THE DC IN ITS PARTY/WORKER RELATIONSHIP. ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL AIMS OF DC PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI

HAS BEEN IMPROVED PARTY ORGANIZATION WITH SPECIFIC INTEREST IN PARTY/WORKER RELATIONS AND A NEW MODE OF COMPETITION WITH THE PCI FOR WORKER ALLEGIANCE.

2. THE DC IS NOW APPARENTLY READY TO UNDERTAKE NEW EFFORT IN WORKER
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ORGANIZATION. IN RECENT DISCUSSION WITH EMBASSY LABOR OFFICER CISL

SECGEN BRUNO STORTI SAID THAT FANFANI HAD PROPOSED THAT DC DEPUTY BALDASSARE ARMATO (FORZE NUOVE FACTION) HEAD NEW DC OFFICE FOR LABOR AFFAIRS. FANFANI HAD REQUESTED STORTI'S ADVICE AND CONSENT. THIS HAS BEEN GIVEN THUS CLEARING THE WAY FOR UPCOMING PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ARMATO'S APPOINTMENT.

3. ACCORDING STORTI NEW DC ORGANIZATION EFFORT WILL NOT WORK THOROUGH CISL NOR THROUGH A STILL-TROUBLED ACLI BUT WILL BE A DIRECT APPROACH BASED ON ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES USED IN PARTY YOUTH AND FEMININE GROUPS. UNLIKE NORMAL EXPERIENCE THESE ORGANIZATIONS, AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO CONCENTRATE BETTER ON GRASS ROOTS RATHER THAN CREATION POLITICAL LEADERS.

4. STORTI CLAIMS THAT FANFANI IS CONVINCED THAT DC CREDIBILITY AS A PARTY FOR WORKERS (NOT CLASSIST BUT WITH WORKERS AS A MAJOR COMPONENT) WILL IMPROVE AS THE PCI FUDGES IDENTIFICATION WITH WORKER THROUGH ATTEMPT IDENTIFY WITH SHOP KEEPERS AND SMALL FARMERS. ALSO, STORTI FEELS PCI, FOR PURPOSES TRADE UNION UNITY AND IN RESPONSE TO NEW WORKER ATTITUDES, WILL LOOSEN PARTY/UNION TIES AT THE FACTORY LEVEL, THUS DISRUPTING ORGANIZATIONAL PATTERNS WHEREPARTY OFFICIALS ALSO WEAR UNION HATS. THIS SHOULD PROVIDE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR DC COMPETITION WIT PCI AT FACTORY LEVEL.

5. COMMENT: IN EMBASSY VIEW STORTI IS OVEROPTIMISTIC CONCERNING OUTCOME DC-PCI COMPETITION IN THE FACTORY, AN OPTIMISM WHICH RELATES TO HIS CONTINUED BELIEF THAT LABOR UNITY WOULD WORK TO COMMUNISTS DISADVANTAGE. CERTAINLY NEW DC EFFORT BEARS WATCHING, FOR IF THE DC HAS ANY ORGANIZATIONAL GENIUS, IT IS FANFANI.

6. MEANWHILE AUTNOMOUS CISL WILL CONTINUE ITS CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DC, ESPECIALLY AT THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP LEVEL, A RELATIONSHIP WHICH HOWEVER DOES NOT MAKE CISL AN INSTRUMENT OF DC POLICY. VOLPE

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